Fulani herdsmen kill 12 in Benue

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Ted Odogwu and Aviashima Toom

Fulani herdsmen have invaded Ugondo, a community in Logo Local Government Area, Benue State, killing no fewer than 15 persons.

SUNDAY PUNCH learnt that the marauders, who razed a part of the community, also took over the deserted villages.

A fleeing member of the attacked community, who spoke to our correspondent, said, "The people were shooting sporadically and the villagers fled, including myself and members of my family for fear of being killed.

"The situation in Ugondo at the moment is scary and we are

helpless. It's as if we are at war. The mission of the invaders is to occupy and take over our villages.

"It's a pathetic situation because corpses are littering the community though one cannot give a specific number of the dead which should not be less than 15. But I know that the casualty figure could be huge because many have been wounded as bullets continue to fly around.

"The people are also burning down houses, farms and foodstuff as they move into the villages in what looks like a wellcoordinated attack."

When contacted, the Police Public Relations Officer, Benue State Police Command, Moses Yamu, confirmed the incident. He noted that five persons had been killed and one injured but that he could not confirm whether the victim later died.